



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of

INOUE et al.

Application Number: 10/768,146

Filed: February 2, 2004

For: **DISK ARRAY DEVICE AND MAINTENANCE
METHOD FOR DISK ARRAY DEVICE**

Atty Docket No. WILL.0005

Art Unit 2186

Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend this application as outlined
hereinbelow: